

March 17, 1958

Professor George Klein  
Department of Tumor Biology  
Karolinska Institutet  
Stockholm 60, Sweden

Dear George:

I apologize for the delay in my response to your letter of March 1 but I was on a trip.

Thank you so much for your help in the financing of our trip. The funds you offer together with the grants we have been able to accumulate here will unquestionably make it feasible for us to come. Perhaps untactfully I replied to Heden that we had received a fair sum from other sources, not giving the details, and that one or two hundred dollars would be all we would ask for from him. I can tell you that even this might be unnecessary but I am not yet sure. In any case, as we indicated, we would certainly be willing to make up a difference of this magnitude from our own resources.

I do not think there will be serious difficulty about the currency conversion. We can discuss this when you visit Madison. The most likely arrangement would be for me to forward any other funds I have accumulated and for you to purchase the ticket in Stockholm. Probably it would be prudent to make an advance inquiry at the S. A. S. office about this possibility.

Esther and I are very sorry that we have had to delay so long in submitting titles and abstracts. We would each like to read a paper as follows:

1. By Esther M. Lederberg "Prophage segregation in *Escherichia coli* K-12"
2. By Joshua Lederberg "extranuclear transmission of the F agent in *Escherichia coli* K-12".

We will make every effort to forward the abstracts covered by these titles in good time. We will not be distressed if the abstracts fail to appear in print, but I suspect this would be contrary to your preferences.

I certainly do not want to make an issue of the question of the time of your arrival. Perhaps the best prospect would be for you to keep your present reservations and to wait until you have reached Gatlinburg before deciding whether to alter your plans.

I wonder if Heden showed you the letter which he received from Penso about the cosmic microbiology question. I was more than a little annoyed at the theatrical opportunism which Penso's reply spoke for. Nothing could be more harmful to a

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sober discussion of plans for the microbiological investigation of space than for it to be initiated with such an attitude. However, perhaps he was joking at least in part and after an initial reaction of amusement it might be possible to get down to serious business. I hope I will have some occasion to discuss this further with you and that meantime you and Heden will simply use your native good sense in making immediate decisions. I had hoped that the Congress might be a rare opportunity to come to some meeting of minds with our colleagues from other countries who may be able to influence the planning of scientific space missions. However, perhaps the Congress is not, after all, the best agency for this purpose.

Looking forward to seeing you,

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Medical Genetics

JL/ew